

# Marhaba



**Club Charter Date**

*June 22, 1995*

**Club Number**

*30893*

**District**

*2452 Rotary Int'l*

**RI President**

*Ian H.S. Raseley  
RC Sandringham*

**District Governor**

*Christina Covotsu -  
Patroculo  
RC Limassol-  
Berengaria  
Cosmopolitan*

**Deputy Governor**

*Ahmad Hussein*

**Assistant Governor**

*Mona Kanaan*

**RCBC Officers**

**2017—2018**

**President**

*Rabab Safieddine*

**President Elect**

*Nora Haddad*

**Vice President**

*Mimi Hamam*

**Secretary**

*Nada Maalouf*

**Treasurer**

*Nadim Hissen*

**Directors**

*Edouar Rassie  
Habib Bassoul  
Joe Boulos  
Mounir Jabre*

**Presidential theme for the Rotary year 2017-2018**

**Rotary: Making a Difference**

**Letter from the President**

Dear Fellow Rotarians

The start of the Rotary year as a President has been a humbling and exhilarating experience at once. On day one you realize that your work load has virtually doubled and it is a continuous balancing act between personal, professional and Rotary lives. What makes it all worthwhile is the support, advice and cooperation I get from all the membership. The projects, big and small that RCBC undertake do make a difference in countless lives and communities. I am proud to be a member of this club and I look forward to this year where we, collectively, can carry the long tradition of excellence and service.



**Letter from the Editor**

Welcome to our first Marhaba edition for the Rotary year 2017-2018.

This year there will be great emphasis on Rotary Public Image, to showcase Rotary as the foremost service organization in the world. To achieve this purpose, we aim to maximize our communication to spread the word about Rotary in general and our club's achievements. We recently celebrated twenty years of success and dedication to our community, and we will make sure that we remind ourselves, friends and the community at large that these successes can be built on and that we do Make a Difference.

This first issue will cover the first two months of the rotary year. Going forward, we will make Marhaba a monthly newsletter. We hope it will be well received!

**Brain Storming Session, Hotel Le Gabriel, Beirut**

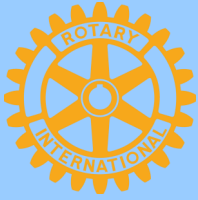
In preparation for the new Rotary year, the incoming President Rabab Safieddine held the annual brain storming session on Saturday May 13, 2017 in the presence of RCBC members and spouses. The president outlined her vision and plan for Rotary year 2017-2018 followed by detailed discussions on the plans and operations of the different committees.



**RCBC meets Tuesdays at the Phoenicia Hotel, Ain-Mreisseh, Beirut  
Business Meetings at 7:00 PM — Dinner Meetings at 8:00 PM**

**Marhaba Editor: R Mona Jarudi – e-mail: monajarudi@gmail.com  
Mobile Telephone: +961 3 858087**

**We welcome your comments and suggestions.**



## RCBC Events

### July 1: A fellowship evening at the Beiteddine International Festival, Beiteddine, Lebanon

In the most beautiful setting of Beiteddine palace, a group from RCBC enjoyed an evening of song and dance with Omar Kamal, a rising star who took the audience back in time to the great hits of Frank Sinatra and other classics.



1st row L to R Rt Feghali, Rt Jaroudi,  
2nd. Row PP Malak, PP Shair & PP

PP Mimi Hamam &  
P Rabab Safieddine

### July 4: Handover Ceremony at ToTo Restaurant, Mar Mikhael, Beirut

Per tradition, the changing of the guard of RCBC took place on July 4 in an evening of fun, and camaraderie. The program of the evening was conceived by PP Lina Shair who was ably assisted by other Rotariennes in our club. After allowing outgoing president Joe Boulos to bask in his glory for few minutes, and sensing his reluctance to give up his presidency, the very eager new P Rabab Safieddine had to resort to Trump power to kick him and his sombre over and out....Adios Amigo!

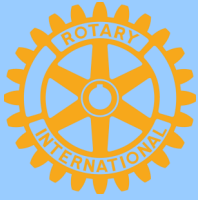
Club P Rabab Safieddine &  
Secretary Nada Maalouf

Kick out Ceremony PPT projection conceived by PP Lina Shair in the presence of rotarians from other clubs and guests



PP Rassie taking the role of P Trump kicking out P Boulos from RCBC

(L to R )Mrs. Nada El Farra, Alumni PP Pierre Azar & spouse Nicole, Mrs. Huguette Edde , PP Solh & PP Kotob (RC Saïda), PP Azar (RC Aley) .



# Marhaba



## July 6: Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan donates two Pediatric and Neonatal Ventilators to Hotel - Dieu Hospital- Heart of the Child Center (GG 1641330)

The dedication ceremony took place on July 6 2017 at the Center of Congenital Heart Disease at the Hotel-Dieu Hospital in the presence of representatives from various participating Rotary clubs, as well as doctors and staff of the hospital and Heartbeat. [\(see pictures below\)](#)

This project was the result of a collaboration between RCBC ( Primary Host Sponsor), and the Rotary Club of Reno, NV, USA (Primary International Partner) with contributions from the Rotary Clubs of Kesrouan, Sahel Metn, and Beirut



Cedars( Lebanon), Rotary Club of Jumeirah (UAE), Rotary Club of San Mateo (CA,USA), and the Rotary Club of Zurich Zurichberg (SUI) as well as funds from RI Districts 2452, 5190, 5150,1990,2000,and 4380 matched by a grant from the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

## July 11: The first club assembly of the new rotary year was presided by P Rabab this week:

P Rabab introduced her board members, and the committee chair persons presented their plans for the year.

**(L to R ) PP Edouard Rassie Chair of Membership Committee, P Rabab Safieddine, Rt. Mohammad Baltaji Chair of Service Committee , RT Nadim Hissen Treasurer, RT Adib Mounla chair of Rotary Foundation committee**



## July 18: Dinner meeting with Dr. Jana Jabbour

The dinner meeting featured guest speaker Dr. Jana Jabbour, Professor of Political Science at the University of St. Joseph, Beirut and President of Rotary Club Tripoli Cosmopolis. She presented an overview of Turkey's foreign policy in the Middle East, and its quest for status and recognition on the world stage.

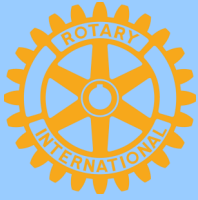
Details of Dr. Jabbour presentation can be found on the club website



**Speaker Dr. Jana Jabbour RT Hamdan, Sec. Nada , Dr. Jabour, PP Jabre & PP Hamam**



The same evening hosted Rotary Peace Fellow Kate Keator **(Photo LHS )** who gave a comprehensive presentation about Rotary Peace Fellows Program. This program started in 2002 when the Rotary Foundation partnered with leading universities around the world to create the Rotary Peace Centers. Each year, up to 100 Rotary Peace Fellows are selected through a highly competitive process to earn a Master's degree in fields such as international relations, sustainable development, peace studies and conflict resolution. Alumni of the program are leaders who promote cooperation, peace, and conflict resolution in their communities and around the world.



# Marhaba



Rotarian Scholar Jad Tabet, returning from Atlanta, Georgia was also a guest that evening. He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to RCBC for the unique opportunity of studying abroad and being an ambassador of the club and Lebanon. While in Atlanta, Jad:

- ◆ Lived with an American family, attended Georgia State University and made the Dean's honor list.
- ◆ Became the President of the first E-Rotaract club for GRSP students and alumni.
- ◆ Met with senators, congressmen, and mayors. Gave speeches to over 12 Rotary clubs discussing RCBC , its service projects and the need for support for these projects.
- ◆ Jad attributes his success to his friends at RCBC.



## July 25: A Fellowship Evening

A Fellowship evening was held in the sporting Club, celebrating the beginning of the new Rotary year and looking forward to the summer break in August in the presence of spouses and guests from RC Saïda.



## August 29: NewGen Peace Builders Lebanon Meeting

PP George Beyrouti hosted an introductory meeting for the " NewGen Peace Builders Lebanon Project" in the presence of fellow Rotarians, Rotaractors and Peace Fellows. A presentation was given by PP Asaad Mounzer, our primary International Partner, followed by a detailed view of the project given by PP George. NewGen Peacebuilders is a global youth peace education program that emphasizes the role and impact of young people ages 14-24 in achieving a peaceful world. NewGen Peacebuilders has been endorsed by the Rotary Action Group for Peace. Rotary grants funded through local Rotary Clubs and Districts support training and scholarships for students to participate in NewGen Peace Builders programs. Another great project led by RCBC!

### Rotary Acronyms for Non-Rotarians

**RI: Rotary International**

**TRF: The Rotary Foundation**

**RC: Rotary Club**

**RCBC: Rotary Club of Beirut Cosmopolitan**

**RT: Rotarian**

**P: President - IP: Incoming President - VP: Vice President - PE: President Elect - PP: Past President**

**D: District - DG: District Governor - IDG: Incoming DG - DDG: Deputy DG - ADG: Assistant DG**

## Sept. 5 : General Assembly

A general assembly was held to discuss the 2017 Draft of the District Policy Manual, district 2450. Amendments were suggested. Final approval was postponed by the DG until remarks from other clubs in the district are taken into consideration.



*In photos above, from L to R AG Mona Kanaan, PP Lina Shair, PP John Edde, RT Samir El Khoury, PP Mounir Jabre .*

## Sept. 12: Business Meeting



*Mrs. Shirine Tannous, P Rabab Safied-dine, DGE Jazzar & spouse Dia, 2470 DGN Theodore Paganos & spouse Angela, Mr. Hani Tannous*

The meeting featured Ms. Lulu Baasiri, who gave a prolific presentation on How to Tame your Inner Self. Details of this talk will be on our website. *(Photo RHS)*

Visiting our club that meeting was Mr. Theodore Panagos (Rotary Club Kifissia, Athens, Greece) Governor Nominee 2019-2020 of 2470 district of Rotary International, Zone 21, who shared briefly an overview about the history of Rotary Clubs in Greece. *(Photo RHS)*



## Sept. 19: Dinner Meeting

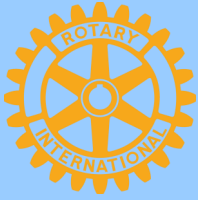
This dinner meeting featured the guest speaker Mrs. Bana Kalash Kobrosly , Lebanon Country Manager of Boecker Public Health. Bana *(Photo RHS)* has a BS in Environmental Health Science and holds an advanced diploma in Food Safety Management from the Royal Society of Public Health, UK. She is also a passionate Rotarian and held several high-level positions at country and club levels and is a member of the Gift of Life Lebanon. The title of her talk was: Let your family eat safe! She outlined the causes of food poisoning, the risk groups and the seven simple steps to keep the family food safe. *(Details of her informative speech can be found on our website).*

RCBC family welcomed that evening three new members who were pinned by their sponsors in the presence of family and friends.

- ◆ Mrs. Olga Joelle Feghali sponsored by PP Joe Boulos. *(Photo RHS)* She holds a Master's Degree in Plastic Art and is currently finishing a Masters in Art Criticism and Curatorial Studies. She is a painter, teacher and a community service advocate.

- ◆ Mr. Wael Hamdan (CPA) sponsored by Rotarian Mazen Farra. *(Photo RHS)* He holds a Master's Degree in money and banking from the American university of Beirut. He is currently Executive Director at Banque du Liban, Head of the Financing Unit. He is also head of Finance, Middle east airlines, VP of the Lebanese Food Bank and Board member of the Association of Specialty and Scientific Guidance.





# Marhaba



◆ Dr. Salah Damer sponsored by P Rabab Safieddine *(Photo LHS)*  
Dr. Salah is an Endodontist, holds a PhD in Restorative and Esthetic Dentistry.

**RCBC welcomes the new members!**  
*(Photos RHS)*



## Sept. 26: Business Meeting

Business meeting with District Governor Elect 2018-2019 , District 2452, Mr. Michel P. Jazzar.

Mr. Jazzar addressed the club members on Rotary business: administration and communication, training program, District theme, District AOF, and the 6th District conference. *(Photo RHS)*

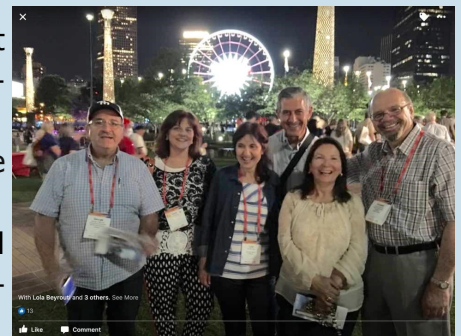


## REACHING OUT

### **PP George Beyrouti, Country Rotary Foundation Officer 2017-2018 Visit to the Rotary International Convention June 11-14, 2017**

PP George and his wife Lola, represented our club at the RI convention. This year's International Convention coincided with the Rotary Foundation's 100th anniversary and was attended by over 30,000 Rotarians. The program included plenary sessions with world renowned speakers like Bill Gates, US Senator Bob Corker and the Honorable Kassim Reed, Mayor of the city of Atlanta. Over 100 breakout sessions on topics such as member engagement, developing leaders, and promoting Rotary.

In addition to participating and networking, PP George attended the Gift of Life International reception and met Salim Najjar who is a great supporter of RCBC. Had a very successful meeting with DGE Richard Ray in the presence of our friend Asaad Mounzer and Elizabeth Peacock to discuss the NewGen Peace Builders Project. *(2 Photos RHS)*



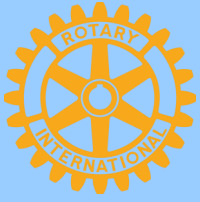
Met the GRSP Scholar Jad Tabet with his host mother. *(Photo LHS)*

Helped promote with other Lebanese Rotarians the Presidential Peace Conference taking place in Beirut, Lebanon on 16-18 Feb. 2018

Met many peace fellows, among them, Kate Keator who later visited Lebanon and attended one of our club meetings. *(Photo RHS)*



In another courtesy visit, PP George was a guest speaker at the Rotary Club of St. Petersburg, Florida on June 2nd, 2017. He spoke about Rotary grants in the presence of 70 club members. PP George was later introduced to PDG Carl Treleaven, a member of that club, who came to Lebanon with his wife Lina and attended our handover ceremony on July 4, 2017. Upon his return to Florida, PDG Carl and his club pledged \$2000 to our global Grant for the provision of brain surgery equipment to Hotel Dieu Hospital in Beirut.



# Marhaba



At the local level, PP Mounir Jabre and his wife Rimane represented RCBC at a fund raiser given by Rotary Club Tripoli Cosmopolis on Friday July 28 2017. *(Photo RHS MP Dr. Atef Majdalani, PP Mounir Jabre, P RC Tripoli Cosmopolis Dr. Jana Jabbour, RT. Rimane Jabre (RC Beirut Center) PP Georges Azar (RC Aley)*



## Banners Exchange



**July 4, 2017**

PDG Carl Treleven of RC St.Petersburg , Florida , Zone 34E/MGA (2015-2018) exchanged banners with RCBC .*(Photo LHS)*

**July 18, 2017**

The second banner exchange between RCBC and GRSP Jad Tabet who got his banner from the Rosewell Rotary Club, Georgia, USA- District 6900 *(Photo RHS)*



**Sept. 12, 2017**

The Third banner exchange between RCBC & District Governor Nominee (2019 - 2020) Theodore Paganos from RC Kifissia - Athens Greece District 2470 *(Photo RHS)*



**Sept. 20, 2017**



The fourth banner exchange was during Rotarian Sona Kourtian visit to RC Yerevan, Armenia. This visit was during the week of Armenia-Diaspora Pan-Armenian 6th conference. Rotarian Sona met other Rotarians visiting from Virginia, USA and Nicosia, Cyprus. *(Photos LHS & RHS)*



### Many Happy Birthday Returns to

*Joelle Feghali July 29 -- Akl Joseph August 5 -- Amal Talhouk August 7*

*Safieddine Rabab Sept. 1 -- Karim Naamani Sept. 15 -- Christine Arzoumanian Sept. 21*